The National
August-September, 1980

Future Farmer

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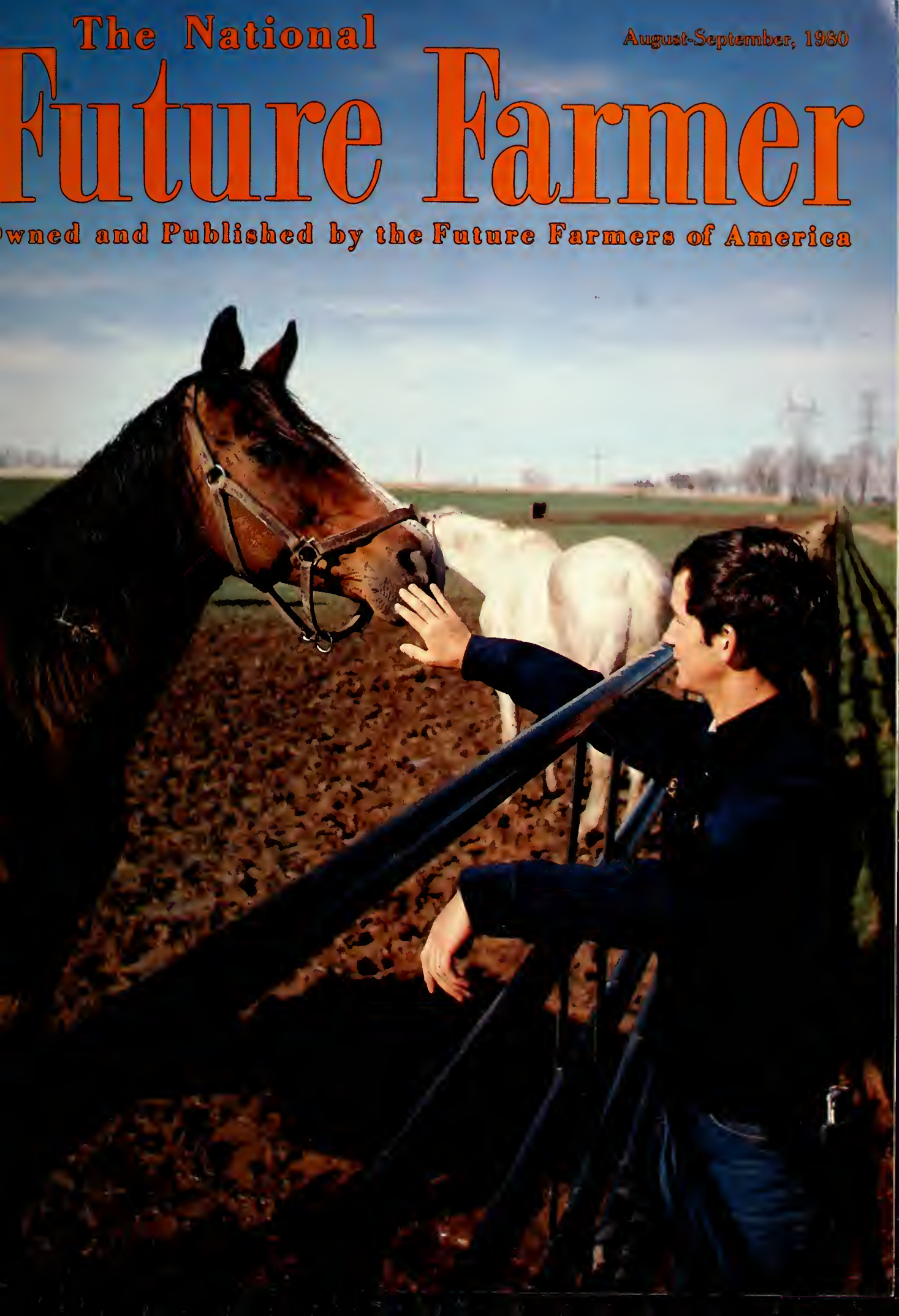

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The National
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A Word With The Editor

A hearty congratulations to the 14 states that show an increase in FFA membership for 1980. They are to be commended for their efforts to maintain a strong and active FFA organization. Tennessee had the greatest increase in the number of members with 637 followed by Puerto Rico with 487, and West Virginia with 336. Other states with increases ranked according to the number of members they gained are Maryland, Florida, Texas, California, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Nebraska, Oregon, Connecticut, Alaska and Rhode Island. All the other states show a loss of membership for the year. Nationally, the FFA had another membership loss for the third straight year dropping from the 494,394 in 1979 to 481,676 in 1980, according to the membership figures just released. To reverse the downward trend a new membership promotion program called the 10-PLUS membership plan was announced on page 10 of the June-July issue. You may want to refer to that issue to learn how your chapter can increase its membership for the coming year and be recognized for your efforts.

Why does FFA need the increase? One answer is provided by National FFA President Doug Rinker who said, "As I've traveled across America this year, I've learned that agriculture plays a bigger role in keeping our country free and strong than I could imagine. I've also gained a yet greater appreciation of what vocational agriculture and the FFA can do for a person interested in a career in agriculture, agribusiness or natural resources."

Thanks and best wishes to Mr. Don McDowell as he leaves the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee for well-earned retirement. Mr. McDowell became executive director of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee in 1969 and continued to serve in that position until April of 1979, when he gave up the director's post to become a Foundation consultant. He officially retired June 30, 1980. McDowell's work with the Foundation was truly outstanding and he will be long remembered for it but he will also be remembered as a man of unlimited dedication and devotion to the young people in blue jackets. There is more on page 14.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Pat Clarke, an FFA member from Midway, Kentucky, gets the attention of a handsome Thoroughbred yearling. Pat and his family raise the powerful Thoroughbreds on a country farm near Lexington, home of many champion race horses. See Pat's story on page 20.

Cover Photo by Jeffrey Tennant

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Agriculture

LOOKING AHEAD

THE SILVER LINING behind the cloud of high energy prices is waking America to a new attitude toward energy usage. C. C. Garvin, executive officer of the Exxon Corporation, says, "the relatively larger reduction in energy growth than in economic growth is primarily attributable to the much higher prices now being paid for energy." Garvin suggests higher fuel prices prompt more efficient usage methods and discourage waste. By 1990, Garvin predicts the U.S. will use 22 percent less energy while maintaining high production levels.

HORSE OWNERS should take pregnant mares off fescue pasture 60 days before foaling, say University of Missouri-Columbia animal scientists. According to recent research, horses left on fescue pasture are more prone to abortion and other reproductive problems. A recent UMC survey of American Quarter Horse Association members showed 27 percent of the members' mares kept on fescue have reproductive problems, compared to 8 percent with no fescue in their diets.

THE NUMBER OF FARMS in the U.S. slipped to 2,332,690 last year, about a third as many as were around in the mid-1930's when the farm count was at its peak. However, when a farm is sold, the buyer is usually another farmer—thus, the trend continues to fewer farms but larger average acreage and minimal farmland loss to nonfarm uses. A farm is defined by USDA as a place with annual agricultural products sales of $1,000 or more.

MASTITIS PREVENTION may soon be possible with a device developed by California veterinarian William Kortrum. Small plastic loops inserted into each teat of a cow's udder show promise of eradicating the most costly disease in dairy cattle. The loops, which fight mastitis bacteria by stimulating the animal's natural disease-fighting mechanism, are undergoing extensive tests under dairy conditions in California and France.

LOADING HORSES' MUSCLES with extra stores of energy can be best achieved by feeding a diet high in starches and sugars, according to animal science researchers at the University of Illinois. The scientists say it is legal and common for horse trainers to inject glucose, electrolytes and amino acids into a horse's bloodstream before a race. However, research indicates a high carbohydrate diet of starch and sugar may be more efficient in providing extra energy. Diets rich in carbohydrates can increase the horse's energy-supplying glycogen content by 10 to 15 percent.

TODAY'S FARMERS need more formal education than their forefathers, according to an article published in USDA's *Farm Index*. The article says higher education is necessary for farmers to attain the scientific and managerial skills needed in modern farming. The table below shows the overall trend toward more education, suggesting that more and more farm residents are staying in school longer.

High School Educated[1]

Age and occupation	Males 1975	Females 1975
	Percent	
25 to 44 years old:		
Managers, nonfarm	93	88
Laborers, nonfarm	53	58
Farmers and farm managers	74	
Farm laborers and supervisors	35	66
45 to 64 years old:		
Managers, nonfarm	83	79
Laborers, nonfarm	26	50
Farmers and farm managers	44	
Farm laborers and supervisors	22	53

[1]Employed persons who have completed 4 or more years of high school.

ADDITIONAL CROP production would be required to produce more than a few hundred million gallons of gasohol a year, reports the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment. The report states, ". . . more intensive cultivation of present cropland and the development of 'potential' cropland . . . would accelerate erosion and sedimentation . . . and aggravate other environmental damages. . . ." Critics of gasohol urge tighter conservation measures as America "gears up" for alcohol production from grain. One ton of grain will produce about 100 gallons of ethanol, or 2.5 gallons per bushel of corn.

Plan to farm or ranch?
Work in agribusiness?
Go to college?

Whatever you do, the more you learn in high school and FFA, the better prepared you'll be.

That's why we encourage students and recognize jobs well done

There's a bright future in agriculture for well-trained and dedicated young people. Not only in farming and ranching but also in agribusiness and in other careers serving farmers and ranchers.

So we encourage students to do their best. And we try to do our part recognizing them for jobs well done. After all, our future depends on agriculture—the farmers and ranchers who buy our livestock feeds, minerals, parasite-control products and livestock equipment.

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Since 1958, our contributions have helped honor outstanding FFA members at the chapter, state, regional and national levels.

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For the 21st year, we're sponsoring scholarships at agricultural colleges. At each, we contribute the same amount for MoorMan Scholarships. But the number and individual dollar amounts awarded at each university are determined by its ag scholarship committee. They also select winners—with no influence or interference from our company. This school year, MoorMan Scholarships are being awarded at these 29 universities:

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University of Florida, Gainesville
University of Georgia, Athens
University of Illinois, Urbana
Iowa State University, Ames
Kansas State University, Manhattan
University of Kentucky, Lexington
Lincoln University, Jefferson, Mo.
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge
Michigan State University, East Lansing
University of Minnesota, St. Paul
Mississippi State University, Starkville
University of Missouri, Columbia
Montana State University, Bozeman
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces
North Carolina State University, Raleigh
Ohio State University, Columbus
Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.
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Readers Report

MAILBAG

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At our recent banquet Mr. and Mrs. (Dianne) Lefrancois asked if they could keep my copy of the December-January issue which had a story printed about them ("Falcon Lady").

I would like to know if you could please send me another copy that I could put in my collection of your fine magazines.

Paul Lauzon

Siloam Springs, Arkansas

My son is 11 years old and saw an issue of "Future Farmer" in our bank lobby. We wonder if we can subscribe to it or do you have to be in FFA in high school? He said it was sure a good magazine. We have a dairy farm.

Mrs. Clinton Jenks

Yes, non-members of any age can subscribe. The non-member subscription goes to $2 per year September 1.—Ed.

Putnam, Connecticut

Recently the Connecticut Association held their annual state FFA conference. As a lead-up to the announcement of the nominating committee's report of the new slate of state officers, the movie "Convention Time —FFA" was shown.

Everyone seemed to enjoy it a great deal and the exciting atmosphere it created helped to inspire our members. I would highly recommend it to any group of Future Farmers.

The Coca-Cola Company deserves a big "thank you" for having sponsored such a fine film.

Kathleen Peterson
State President

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Bravo for your story entitled "Laurels For Linda." I am grateful for the FFA where students raised in the city can learn farming on high school chapter farms.

I also am pleased that people like Linda are able to succeed because of all the doors opened by the FFA.

I am sure there are many urban FFA members who have terrific success stories. Please print more of them.

Beverly Hardaway

Ridgewood, New York

The John Bowne Chapter was very pleased and proud to be featured in *The National FUTURE FARMER*. As a result of the article, others have become aware of our program.

Since many members enjoyed the article we thought it would be nice to distribute copies of the magazine at our annual banquet. Many of the people attending the banquet will be incoming students and their parents. We would like to be able to give them each a copy of the magazine and introduce them to our program and the national organization.

Marianne Vaccaro
Chapter Reporter

Oak Grove, Louisiana

I just want to say "thanks" and commend you and the staff on such a great article ("Three of a Kind") in the April-May, 1980, issue. I have received many comments from FFA members throughout the state and nation. The article not only made Jay, Fred and me, and our chapter proud, but also our state association.

Wendell Manning
President, Louisiana Association

Catlin, Illinois

I would like to say thank you for considering our FFA chapter for a story in the national magazine. We enjoyed your associate editor's visit here and would wish you luck with other stories with the magazine.

Curt Prather
Chapter Secretary

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

Announcing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit Japan, attend the 30th Anniversary Convention of Future Farmers of Japan (FFJ), see ancient Kyoto, modern Tokyo, and explore the agricultural region of Hokkaido. Depart November 17, 1980, for ten days of excitement and an international learning experience with other members of FFA. Complete information on how you can participate, including detailed itinerary available by writing: FFJ Convention, c/o National FFA Center, International Department, Alexandria, VA 22309. Join the FFJ celebration and write today!

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Hauling feed or having fun, the Kawasaki KLT200 was everything Farmer Brown expected, and then some. Fact is, he wouldn't trade it for a whole herd of those other critters.

	Honda	Yamaha	Kawasaki
Electric starting	no	no	yes
Dual-Mode Differential	no	no	yes
Biggest engine	no	no	yes
Manual clutch	no	no	yes
Keyswitched ignition	no	no	yes
Aux.12v capability	no	no	yes
Std. hitch bracket	no	no	yes

Kawasaki

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The FFA

NEWS IN BRIEF

FFA LEADS ALL high school youth organizations in the United States in percentage of membership from enrollment. Based on 1977-79 enrollment figures in vocational courses and 1978-79 membership figures as of June 1, 69 percent of the students in vocational agriculture are members of FFA. Next high is DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) with 43 percent. The national average for FFA, DECA, FBLA, FHA, HERO, VICA, HOSA and AIASA is 11 percent membership from total enrollment in vocational education.

ALL MAJOR EXHIBITS in FFA's Hall of Achievement are now sponsored, and the first display is constructed at the National FFA Center. "The National FFA Center—Your Place" was finished in time for viewing by this summer's participants in the FFA Washington Conferences. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the first exhibit is slated for the State Presidents' Conference in July.

STAN KINGMA will bow as director of the National FFA Chorus during the 1980 National FFA Convention in Kansas City. Kingma, former musical director at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, has created and directed musical troupes, choirs and stage bands, many of which toured America and Europe under Kingma's leadership. A versatile director and musician, the Indiana native has also produced eight record albums and several commercials.

KIM HAVENS, past state FFA president and vocational agriculture teacher in Wisconsin, assumed duties last month as assistant executive director of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee. Havens will assist Executive Director Bernie Staller in expanding contacts with sponsors and potential sponsors for FFA programs. In addition to his involvement in several civic organizations, the Darlington, Wisconsin, native is a member of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association and Alpha Gamma Rho.

STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURE meetings across the nation were hosted by Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland and well-attended by FFA members. Several chapters in different states were panel members for the meetings, which were intended to measure the "pulse" of today's agriculture. FFA panelists were challenged to bring the feelings of farm youth to special meetings. Below, Bergland fields questions from your national officer team.

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McDowell Retires

Two years ago Mr. McDowell was honored on the stage at the National FFA Convention by then president Ken Johnson with the VIP Citation.

FFA salutes and thanks retiring executive director of the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee, Donald N. McDowell.

Mr. McDowell was employed by the FFA Foundation Trustees in 1969 when the task of conducting the fund-raising drive among America's business industry got to be too large for businessmen volunteers. Mr. McDowell had served for 19 years as Wisconsin Secretary of Agriculture prior to joining the FFA team.

And team is what it was. His hard driving attitude and enthusiasm for FFA meant record-breaking fund-raising successes.

Last year in cooperation with Foundation Chairman Robert Lund, general manager of the Chevrolet Motor Division, General Motors, over $1,000,000 was raised for the blue-jacketed leaders of tomorrow. In 1969, the fund was at just $250,000.

Current Foundation Chairman R. M. Hendrickson, president of Pfizer, Inc.-Ag Division, praised Mr. McDowell, "The progress of the FFA Foundation under the leadership of Don McDowell has been phenomenal. His dedication has led to the emergence of the FFA as the most vital youth group in America."

Born and reared on a livestock farm near Montello, Wisconsin, Mr. McDowell was an FFA member and earned the State and American Farmer degrees for his farm production work. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin where he had been president of the Collegiate FFA. He then taught vocational agriculture for nine years.

In January, 1970, Mr. McDowell was appointed by the President of the United States to the National Advisory Council on Vocational Education.

The retiree has received the Honorary American Farmer degree, the National FFA Alumni Association achievement award and the prestigious VIP Citation given by the National FFA Organization to persons who have continued to serve and support the FFA for many years.

Currently the FFA Foundation has established an Honors Fund to continue recognizing his dedication. The fund is an endowment fund and contributions to it provide a perpetual honor to the man who made FFA a vital youth action organization in the eyes of agriculture's leaders. Persons interested in supporting the fund can send their contributions to the National FFA Foundation, Sponsoring Committee Office, P.O. Box 5117, Madison, Wisconsin 53705.

Secretary Hufstedler stopped by the FFA exhibit and took time to learn from the FFA members how to best propagate a house plant.

FFA Meets the Secretary

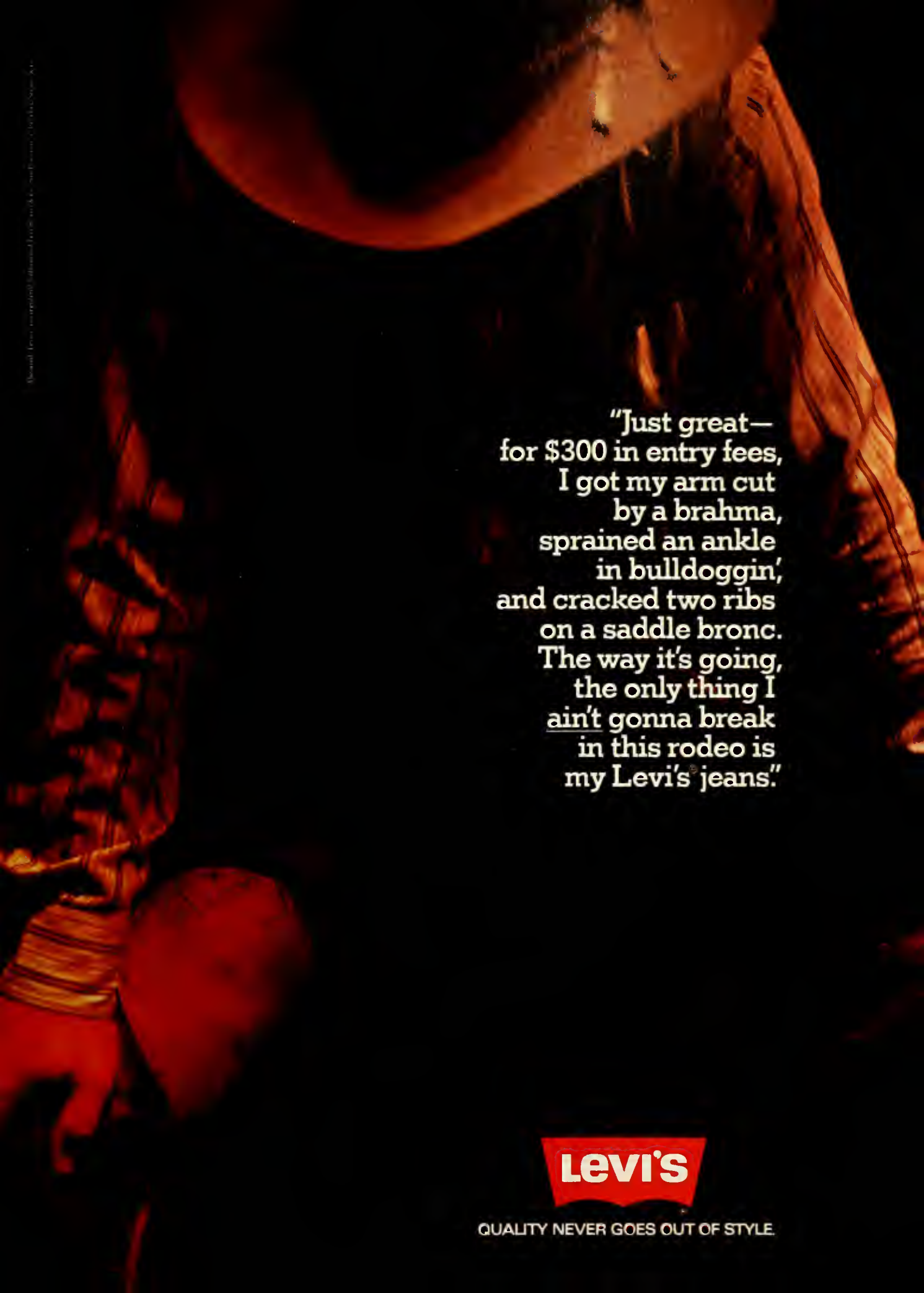
FFA members were on hand for the official opening ceremonies of the new United States Department of Education and introduction of the Secretary, Shirley Hufstedler.

FFA was invited to prepare an exhibit for the lobby area for the thousands of guests to see.

Howard County Vocational Technical Center Chapter from Ellicott City, Maryland, prepared the exhibit utilizing flowering dogwood trees, a brick sidewalk, shrubbery and flowers. After setting in the popular exhibit, chapter members were on hand to demonstrate houseplant propagation to passers-by.

Earlier in the day the president of the Work Experience Center FFA Chapter from Rochester, New York, pinned a corsage on the new secretary to wear throughout her special day. His fellow officers, who had made a supply of corsages, helped present boutonnaires or corsages to all of the assistant secretaries including Dr. Daniel Taylor, assistant secretary for Vocational and Adult Education.

The Federal charter for FFA links the organization with the U.S. Department of Education.


"Just great—
for $300 in entry fees,
I got my arm cut
by a brahma,
sprained an ankle
in bulldoggin',
and cracked two ribs
on a saddle bronc.
The way it's going,
the only thing I
ain't gonna break
in this rodeo is
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A new front-wheel-drive option lets you put more engine performance to work. It's available on 2040, 2240 and 2940 tractors and features on-the-go engagement and disengagement.

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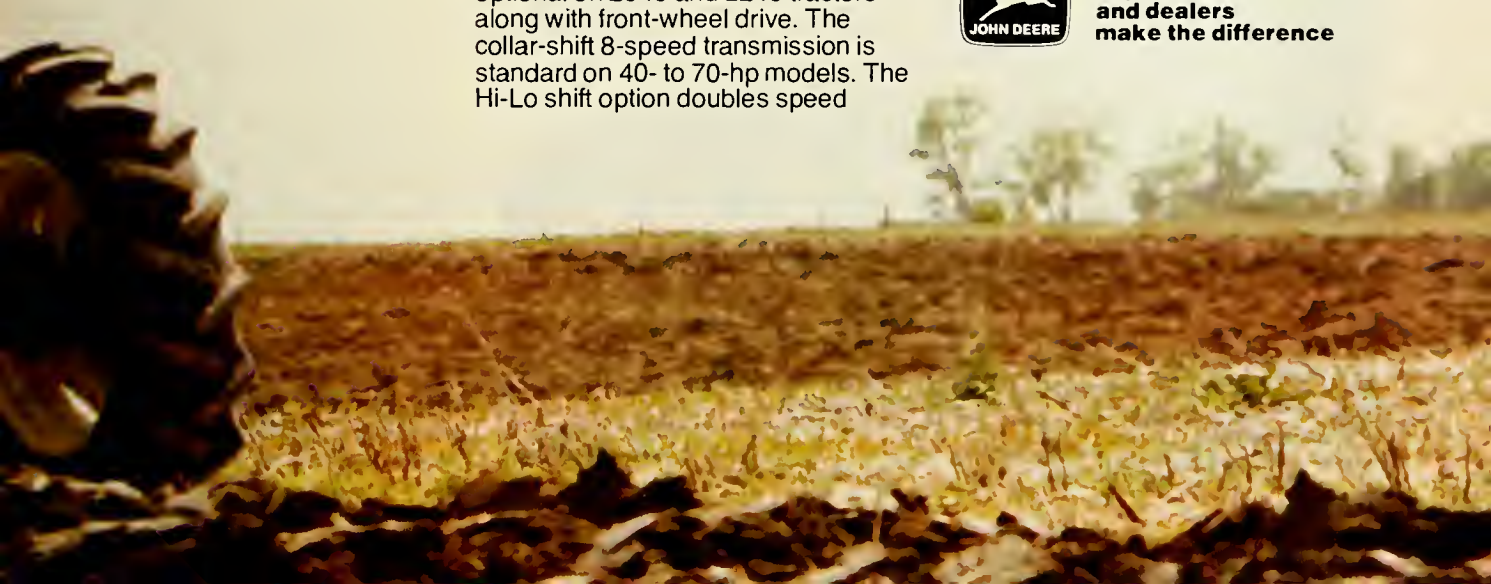

Taking Care of Your Riding Gear

A HORSE ride should never end with a quick dismount and a hurried pitch of tack and equipment into a vacant stall. Tack and equipment is an often vital and expensive part of the horse owner's inventory. These items deserve care and require frequent maintenance.

During a workout, the horse builds up sweat and accumulates dust. Saddles, bridles, blankets and other tack items are exposed to these elements and should be cleaned or aired to maintain good condition.

When equipment is removed from the horse, gear should be placed in a dry, rodent-free room with good ventilation. Moisture can cause leather to crack and break. In some cases, a saturated blanket should be left in the open air to achieve adequate drying.

Saddles should never be thrown on the floor or ground. A stabilized board jutting from the tack room wall or a pair of sawhorses serve as excellent saddle stands. A sturdy hanging rope with a loop for the saddle horn provides an easy storage facility. Saddles gather dust in storage so a cover of gunny-sacks or other durable fabric is recommended.

Leather stable gear should be cleaned periodically, if not every time used, with saddle soap or another glycerin-based soap. Oils such as neatsfoot are often used on very dry leather for rejuvenation. However, use of oil too frequently tends to weaken stitching and other parts. A supple leather may be maintained with periodic use of oils.

Photo courtesy of Big Horn Saddlery

In addition to cleaning and proper storage procedures, gear should be checked regularly for breaks and wear. Straps such as reins and cinch are subjected to considerable stress. Should these items give way during a ride, the rider's safety is endangered.

Tack and equipment represent a large sum of the owner's total investment in a horse. Dirty, neglected tack can cause considerable damage to an animal's hide. Proper care of gear will increase rider safety, keep the horse healthier and prolong the equipment's usable life.

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7. **Structures may be moved** to a new location if necessary.
8. **More dollar for dollar value** in the proven design and construction of the Slurrystore system. Designed by A. O. Smith Harvestore Products, Inc., and sold through Harvestore system dealers.

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Photo by Author

The bluegrass horse country of Kentucky provides the background for Pat Clarke and his future in agriculture.

A Horsema

By Jeffrey Tennant

IF you were to make a 6 a.m. visit to beautiful Highland Farm in Midway, Kentucky, you'd probably catch Pat Clarke on his way from breakfast to pickup truck. For an assistant manager on a Kentucky horse and cattle farm, there's much to be done and not enough time to do it.

But Pat is not a typical farm manager. A senior FFA member at Woodford County High School near Lexington, Pat has to squeeze in chores between the 8 a.m. school bell and the setting sun. "Squeezing in" chores on a 270-acre farm full of registered Black Angus, tobacco and Thoroughbred horses isn't easy. But Pat, along with parents Bill and Lillie Mae, keeps business running smoothly.

"Horses are our main business," offers 18-year-old Pat, a surprising statement from a guy with 200 head of Angus to look after. "We produce and sell yearlings. I enjoy the cattle business but the horse breeding operation is so consistent. We normally care for 25 to 28 mares at one time here, not including the six we own."

Producing and selling yearlings—sounds simple, doesn't it? Actually, such a project in "bluegrass country" often takes on a meaning unique to Kentucky. In this agriculturally rich state, home of many champion-producing Thoroughbred farms, mares and the yearlings they foal are usually worth many thousands of dollars. Utmost attention and faultless health management must be given such animals.

"We've had horses from as many as eight states and Canada here at one time," says Pat, unknowingly testifying to his family's good reputation. "Kentucky-bred horses often do much better at sales so many owners ship their mares here for breeding. If the mare's not in foal when she arrives, we arrange for breeding and see the mare through to foaling. If the mare comes to us in foal, we keep her until she foals. We treat all the horses like they were ours."

You can't appreciate that kind of personal treatment until this is known: The Clarkes' three mares alone are assessed at a value of $700,000. "One mare's face value approaches $300,000," shares Pat, relating to a dark brown Thoroughbred grazing a nearby "private" field. "That mare came in a package deal with four or five mares several years ago. She won over $100,000 in racing before she was retired from the track for breeding. Since we've had her, we've sold all her foals at market for excellent prices."

To illustrate the return on an investment in a $300,000 mare, consider a yearling that belongs to Pat. He plans to sell the yearling this spring. Since horses are considered one year old on January 1 regardless of the actual birthdate, Pat's yearling won't necessarily be one year old. However, market yearlings are usually close to 12 months of age.

"Yearlings from our mares should bring from 40 to 100 thousand dollars at market, depending on the pedigree of the mare and stud that produced the yearling," Pat continues. Pedigree, or ancestral line, is closely tracked in any registered animal, Thoroughbreds not excepted. If a colt is offspring of a champion mare, stud, or both, his value is increased substantially.

The Clarkes have had good fortune in mare investments. One mare will have her fourth foal this year, another her seventh. But Pat's the first to caution that horse breeding and selling is a risky business. In fact, the Clarkes have a scare on their hands now.

"A foal of Dad's is having problems," says Pat, a serious tone in his words. "He's a yearling, having been born in April of 1979. His sale is coming in July but he might not make it." The colt is valued at $75,000.

in the Bluegrass

FFA member Pat Clarke claims a share of the wealth in the bluegrass region of northeastern Kentucky.

The FFA member with desire to establish a career or supervised project in horse production may lack sufficient capital to purchase a quality mare. Pat says a good stallion can cost from $15,000 to $50,000, so acquiring a mare is only half the battle. And if the mare dies or never foals, the huge investment is for nought. But Pat asserts that owning horses isn't the only way to "make it" in horse management.

"Producing and selling yearlings doesn't necessarily mean you must own those animals," says Pat. "We board a lot of mares, usually keeping five in the foaling barn. In this kind of operation you must be organized. For instance, if horse owners bring their mares to us for breeding and foaling, we plan breeding so they don't all foal at once. We've structured our business of horse production in order to be most efficient."

From February through May, the Clarkes arrange for breeding of boarded mares that are without foal. All horses on the farm are fed a rich ration of straight oats, an expensive yet very nutritious feed. Mares in foal and yearlings have their own stalls but "barren" mares without foals are usually not put inside at night.

"An owner will pay $14 a day for our services," says Pat. "We feel that rate covers our operating expenses of feeding, equipment and labor. Many owners keep a mare here in Kentucky only long enough to get her bred. When the mare is pronounced in foal over 120 days, we ship her home. If a mare comes to us in foal, we see her through to foaling and care for the foal."

Mares close to foaling must be closely observed around the clock. Pat or his father must be present at foaling time to alleviate any problems at birth. This 24-hour watch often becomes an ordeal. "We can usually tell from breeding dates when a mare's going to foal, but sometimes they fool you," assures Pat. "We've sat up for two weeks with mares, all night long. In those cases, we soon start checking the mare every hour. Dad and I sleep in between times and often trade off."

Once a mare and foal are deemed ready for home, another carefully planned operation begins. Horses often travel great distances to Highland Farm, a factor that calls for special equipment.

"Horses frequently travel by van," Pat shares, referring to long motor carriers equipped to transport horses comfortably over road miles. "But they're also flown. The carriers are like old military cargo planes but are well-adapted to horse transport. Each mare has a separate stall, and the planes are air-conditioned. Mares can stand cold easier than heat."

To hear Pat talk of the care and patience required in breeding and managing Thoroughbreds, a love for horses becomes evident. Pat knows the thrill of nurturing a healthy foal and the satisfaction that comes in presenting an owner with a fine new addition to the herd. Even in the Kentucky bluegrass region with its complex, big-money world of Thoroughbred breeding, Pat Clarke outwardly exhibits a very simple, free emotion—a love for farming.

The well-kept stalls in the Clarke boarding barn are homes for mares from as far away as Canada.

A fine herd of registered Black Angus cattle roam the Clarke fields that aren't already grazed by horses.

Pat's family resides on a well-kept estate, typical of the large Kentucky horse farms.

A Real People Person

The reigning "first lady of rodeo" shows forth the qualities of horsemanship expected of a queen.

By Jeffrey Tennant

Now assistant editor of the *Kansas Farmer*, Diana is holding down both a career and a term in office.

EARLIER this year, a huge billboard greeted Diana Putnam on her return home from a triumphant event in Oklahoma City. The sign, placed on the Putnams' Half Box P quarter horse farm, simply read: "Miss Diana Putnam, Miss Rodeo America, 1980." That surprise, says the 22-year-old horsewoman from Hoyt, Kansas, has been a highlight during her one year reign as Miss Rodeo America. The sign also announces the accomplishment of a lofty goal for a former FFA member who used to cry in fear before giving a speech.

"People can't believe I had a shy bone in my body," says Diana, her cheerful personality indicating no trouble with bashfulness. "My duties as Miss Rodeo America require me to deal with people in many ways: speaking at civic clubs and high school assemblies, FFA and youth group meetings, TV and radio broadcasts—but I thank FFA and other leadership-oriented youth groups for bringing me out of my shell."

As a high school "farm girl" growing up on a 200-acre horse ranch with some 200 brood mares, Diana soon began searching for learning experiences outside her work with horses. That desire, she says, led her to join FFA.

"I was the first girl in school to join," she remembers, "and I didn't just want to be a member. My advisor, Ed Ryan, was very helpful and considerate, so I was able to take advantage of opportunities such as chapter office (reporter) and judging contests. FFA also helped me gain agricultural knowledge that helped me in horsemanship events. "Reading" cattle, for instance, or knowing their habits, is very important in cutting horse competition. FFA allows much opportunity for growth in knowledge and character but you have to take advantage of those opportunities. I often look back and wish I'd done more."

As a young lady who rode off with the Miss Rodeo America crown, which was also the goal of 45 other talented horsewomen, Diana shares, "I couldn't even get past my district in the chapter FFA sweetheart contest. But I tried to maintain a positive attitude. That's so important, and it's easy to attain. Just tell yourself there's not a thing in the world you can't do if you set your mind to it. Tell people you're going to accomplish something. Convince yourself and others, too. Then work very hard toward your goals."

Working hard is nothing new to Diana. Honors and offices such as Kansas High School Rodeo (KHSR) All-around Cowgirl, KHSR Queen and Kansas Junior Quarter Horse Association (KJQHA) president only added to chores at home and school. But she still managed to compete in rodeo events such as cutting, pole bending and barrel racing, attaining champion standing several times. In fact, as a top-ten barrel racer and pole bender in the national JQHA, she was faced with a very difficult decision.

She considers herself "a public relations person for today's youth and the sport of rodeo."

"It was hard for me to give that up to go to college," she recalls. "But I'm happy now that I have my college education. My parents wanted me to go. They've always been very understanding and still are my number one supporters.

"I enjoy working with rodeo people and the sport itself," she says. "I believe in it. If you believe in something, like FFA, you'll work harder in it."

Diana is quick to point out that leadership demands dedication from an individual. "People need someone to look up to—like national FFA officers or John Wayne. Heroes can often challenge people to higher goals."

Certainly, Diana is "looked up to" by a special group of horse enthusiasts. Many young people with handicaps have been given a chance to experience rodeo and riding competition because of Diana's teaching.

"When I was in FFA, I started sending kids I'd worked with to competitions," she says. "I'd see them bring back purple ribbons from tough events. After working with those kids, I couldn't go back to working with others."

Although Diana travels extensively, hitting many livestock exhibitions, rodeos and western wear promotions for companies such as Tony Lama, Resistol hats and J.C. Penney, she says her job isn't all glamour.

"I always imagined Miss Rodeo America to be the perfect girl with perfect hair and perfect clothes. But I know my hair gets messy and my clothes get wrinkled. If I'm reachable, though, maybe I can show somebody that they can reach their goals, too."

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...And could we leave right soon?

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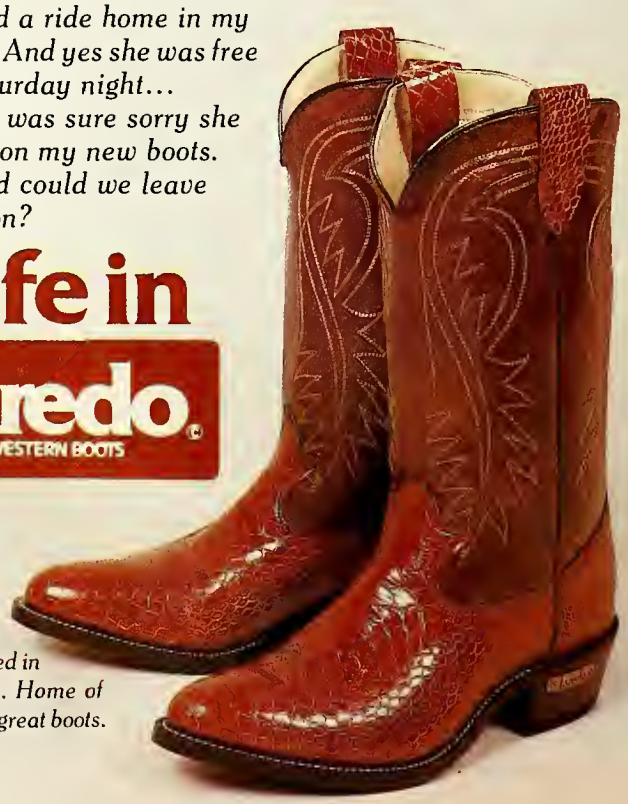

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Hats, Hats, Hats!

Whether it's serving its wearer as a cooking pot or formal attire, the hat is a mixture of function and fashion.

The Pork Pie was a favorite with ranchers and herders who worked in low brush country.

By J. Severn

HATS, hats, hats—those marvelous toppers that we toss, tip, throw into rings, pass and, not too long ago, used as badges of identification. For early American settlers, hats were strictly functional items and were chosen to fit the individual lifestyle of the wearer. Hats were often used as "tools of the trade," and offered vital protection from the elements. By observing the shape and crease of a person's hat, one could easily note the origin and occupation of the wearer.

Hardy mountain men, trappers and scouts were the first to introduce the hat west of the Mississippi. This early style, an adaptation of the tri-cornered hat worn during the American Revolution, was known as the "plainsman." The plainsman, with its small, round crown and narrow, flat brim, protected wearers from the bright sun of the plains and (with the front of the brim flipped up) offered visibility in the close quarters of mountain forests.

Following the mountain men were the enterprising wranglers of the rainy, northwestern states who added a deep front crease to the plainsman and gave it the title of "beaver slide." The beaver slide's single crease allowed rain water to pour off while a narrow, curled brim helped to hold the hat firmly on the head of its owner. With time, two deep side dents were added to the beaver slide in an effort to make it easier to grasp. This created the style that was later revitalized by the famous western hero, Tom Mix.

Pinching A Peak

In a similar attempt to design an easy to grasp, functional rain-hat, ranchers in Montana and Wyoming pinched their hat crowns on four sides and made what was known as the "Montana peak." Realizing the practical aspects of this crease, the Montana peak was quickly adopted by the U.S. Cavalry and by such well-known forest rangers as "Smokey the Bear."

While northerners were watching rain pour down their beaver slides, cowboys in the southwestern states were busy developing a hat to meet their particular needs. Taking a tip from their neighbors of the far south, early westerners wore the wide brim and tall crown of the Mexican sombrero. Not only did this brim shade the cowboy from the glaring sun, it was useful for fanning campfires, signaling distant partners and smacking the rumps of stubborn animals. As well as keeping the wearer's head cool, the tall crown also served a number of useful functions. It made a comfortable pillow, an excellent bucket for watering horses and, in a bind, was a passable cooking receptacle.

Cowboys who found themselves stuck on the range without a pot or pan could fill their "ten-gallons" with water, drop in hot rocks to bring the water to a boil

(Continued on Page 26)

Jessica Severn *has written many published articles on western wear. She recently left her job as managing editor of* Western Wear and Equipment Magazine *in Denver, Colorado, to pursue her Ph.D. in communications.*

H. Stull, Colorado shop owner, uses modern steam machine to shape hats.

A new felt hat requires especially careful hand shaping.

The flat plantation style was often regarded as the mark of a "dude."

Hats

(Continued from Page 25)

and add raw eggs or thin strips of beef. It didn't work like Teflon but it sure beat going hungry!

Wearing Pork Pie

Sheep herders and cowboys who worked in low brush country found wide brims to be inconvenient and preferred a style known as the "pork pie." The "pie" had a narrow brim and a low dish-shaped crown that could easily be dented in the back to allow for water drainage.

Just as cowboys of the open range could be identified by their head-gear, early-day gamblers, gunslingers and "city fellers" could be seen sporting crisp bowlers or derbys, and on special occasions, even tall, silk top hats. The flat-crowned plantation style hat so popular in many urban areas today was generally regarded as the mark of a "dude" and more than once led to a rowdy saloon brawl between "dandy" and cowboy.

Dirt farmers of the Old West were recognized by their low-crowned, narrow-brimmed slouch hats and more commonly by their "Scotch caps." The Scotch cap was especially popular be-

The Plainsman, an adaptation of the tri-cornered hat worn during the American Revolution, was the first hat west of the Mississippi.

cause its wool fibers absorbed perspiration and its ear flaps provided warmth. These caps were compact enough to stay out of the farmer's way during work while at the same time offering necessary protection from the elements.

In addition to the functional aspects of various hat styles, the age of the wearer and hero worship played important roles in the design of headgear. Older men often chose small, low-crowned hats while young men were quick to choose styles with tall crowns and wider brims. Wyatt Earp popularized the flat topped felt, Billy the Kid gave color and romance to a non-descript black slouch felt and some historians credit the prevalence of straw "toppers" to Judge Roy Bean.

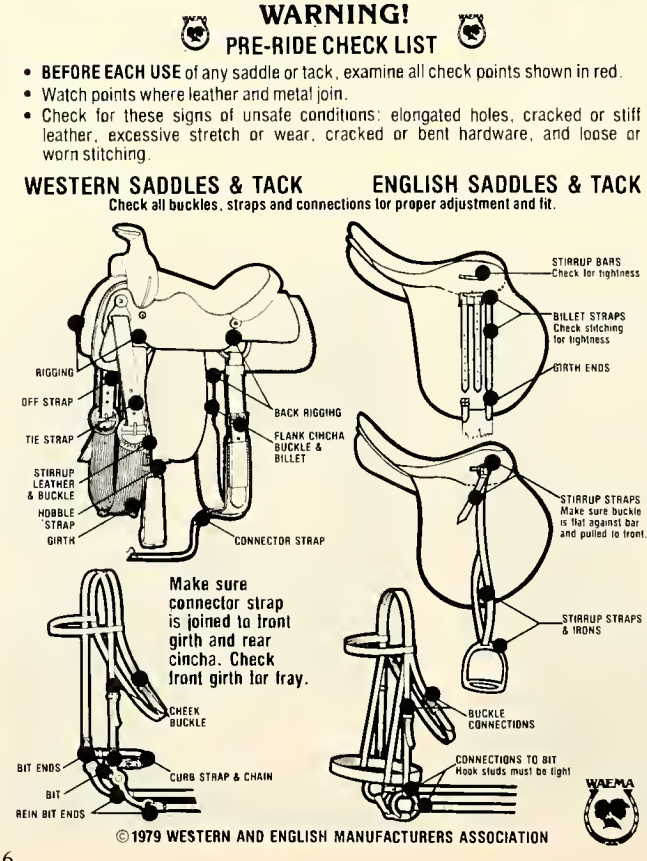
Booting Function for Fashion

For the most part, men of the Old West chose their hats for practical reasons. Californians, however, were the exception. From the top of his hat to the tip of his boot, the California cowboy was the epitome of fashion. He spurned the functional wide brims and tall crowns of the Southwest and adopted small-crowned, narrow-brimmed hats elaborately decorated with snakeskin or sterling silver hat bands.

Although fashion dictates most hat styles today, a few creases still tell us about the wearer. The "long-cattleman's" crease (a deep top crease with two side dents) is a favorite of western businessmen, oilmen and rodeo stock contractors while high, tightly rolled brims are generally the mark of rodeo cowboys.

If you decide you'd like to shape and design a hat that is "just you," local western wear shops with sophisticated steam machines and skilled creasers will be happy to assist you. Perhaps the best part about wearing a hat is that, no matter what style it starts out with, it eventually takes on the characteristics and personality of the wearer. In a time when individuality is hard to find, that's an added plus to the practicalities of the western hat.

Use This Pre-Ride Check List


WARNING!
PRE-RIDE CHECK LIST
• BEFORE EACH USE of any saddle or tack, examine all check points shown in red.
• Watch points where leather and metal join.
• Check for these signs of unsafe conditions: elongated holes, cracked or stiff leather, excessive stretch or wear, cracked or bent hardware, and loose or worn stitching.
WESTERN SADDLES & TACK
ENGLISH SADDLES & TACK
Check all buckles, straps and connections for proper adjustment and fit.
RIGGING
OFF STRAP
TIE STRAP
STIRRUP LEATHER & BUCKLE
HOBBLE STRAP
GIRTH
BACK RIGGING
FLANK CINCHA BUCKLE & BILLET
CONNECTOR STRAP
STIRRUP BARS Check for tightness
BILLET STRAPS Check stitching for tightness
GIRTH ENDS
STIRRUP STRAPS Make sure buckle is flat against bar and pulled to front.
STIRRUP STRAPS & IRONS
Make sure connector strap is joined to front girth and rear cincha. Check front girth for fray.
CHEEK BUCKLE
BIT ENDS
BIT
REIN BIT ENDS
CURB STRAP & CHAIN
BUCKLE CONNECTIONS
CONNECTIONS TO BIT Hook studs must be tight
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A little "preventive maintenance" not only keeps your saddles and tack looking well, but can also save you from serious injury. Know the "hot spots" where equipment can break down and check them every time you ride. And learn how to care for the leather and other materials—they are perishable.

Tags with these check lists, such as the one at left, were recently developed as part of a product standards program by the Western and English Manufacturers Association (WAEMA), a national trade association of companies that manufacture or distribute Western and English riding equipment or clothing.

The tags are part of an effort to promote saddle safety by educating riders about the possible hazards of riding equipment if it is not properly used and maintained. It's always fun to throw your leg around a horse ready for a good ride, but such a ride without precaution can lead to disaster.

In addition to the pre-ride check list developed by WAEMA, a cleaning and care chart has been produced. Here's a list of "things to do and do not" as recommended by WAEMA.

DO—Clean, restore and examine tack at least every 30 days.

DO—Clean with glycerine or castile soap removing all sweat, hair and dirt.

DO—Treat with restoring compound after cleaning to restore softness.

For English leather products, animal-base compounds are recommended. Do not soak English leather products in oil, nor apply hot oil to them.

DO—Wash and polish metal items after use.

DO NOT—Dry leather quickly (sun or excessive heat).

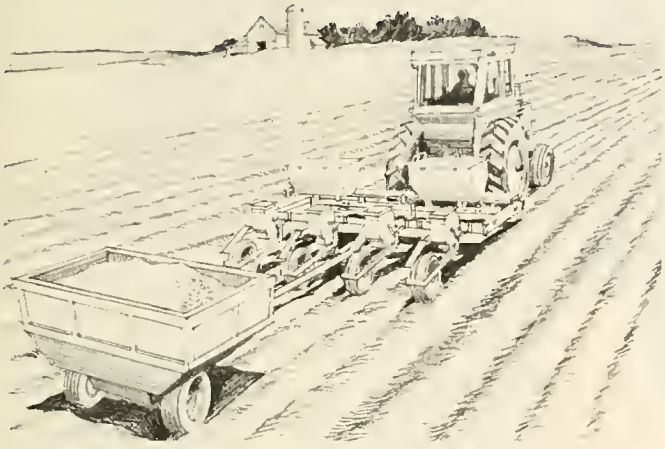
DO NOT—Store tack in a hot, dry place.

DO NOT—Store tack in a cold, damp place.

WAEMA lists also warning signs of improper maintenance or excessive wear: stiffness or cracking indicates the leather is too dry. Stretching, elongated holes, change of shape signals wearing out. Over-oiling can cause lack of resilience or limpness. If hardware is bending, cracking or changing shape, this too can indicate wearing out. Check these items along with safety to improve on the pleasure of your horse riding.

Ag Tips

from your Exxon Farm Distributor

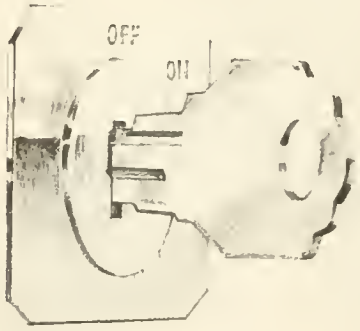


How to work less and make more money.

Many farmers are discovering they can make one trip over the field do the work of two or three. For example they're planting, fertilizing and herbiciding all at the same time. They're spot treating weeds while cultivating. Some do little or no plowing. They call it "minimum tillage" and it's producing bumper crops while saving time, money, fuel and wear and tear on equipment. Worth looking into.

Here's the key to surprisingly large fuel savings.

A study made in a leading agricultural state showed that, on the average, tractors are left idling for more than 12% of their total hours of operation. According to the study, an idling tractor may use about ½ gallon of fuel per hour, so in a year's time, the potential for saving fuel and money is considerable. All it takes is a turn of the key when you think the tractor might be idling for more than a few minutes.



Put Exxon's XD-3™ and XD-3 EXTRA™ engine oils to work saving money and fuel on your farm.

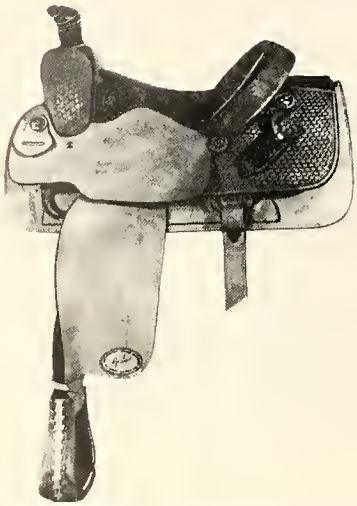
These tough, fuel-saving engine oils could shrink your fuel bills. This statement is based on a 3%improvement in fuel economy demonstrated in over-the-road diesel truck engine tests by an independent research organization. The tests pitted XD-3 and extended-drain XD-3 EXTRA oils against two leading competitive SAE 30 oils and a leading competitive 15W-40 multi-grade.All were petroleum-based oils. But XD-3 and XD-3 EXTRA have Exxon's special fuel-saving additive components that make oil more "slippery." This reduces friction in the engine, saving fuel. Ask for them at your Exxon Farm Distributor's now.

EXXON

EXXON COMPANY, U.S.A.

New Product Roundup

(Left) Durango, the newest style from Miller Bros. western hats, is set off by a vinyl and tapestry band and Maribu plume. *(Right)* Everyone's into embroidery—including Miller Western Wear. This is from their new collection.



(Above, left) Loaded with eye appeal yet tough enough to take a lifetime of hard use is the Ray Cooper Combination, part of Simco's new collection. *(Above, right)* Tex Tan's new "Trophy Showman" is hand tooled and finished with steel lacing.

(At right) Here's a new offering from the Tony Lama Boat Company that's a perfect example of Tony Lama style. A grey lizard foot and blue shaded accent stitching are featured. *(Bottom right)* These supple steppers, in sunny Benedictine color, are the first Nacona boots for ladies to feature kangaroo from Australia.

(At left, top) The Stetson Duke features a 7" pinch front crease crown and is accented with military gold acron band and Stetson branding iron pin. *(At left, bottom)* Bailey Hat Company's new PRCA "Canyon" is in natural color poly straw with 4½ inch rodeo brim. It's also a U-Rollit straw.

(Continued on Page 30)

Ask for NOCONA BOOTS where quality western boots are sold. Style shown #4781. With No. 6 toe it's Style #1242.
NOCONA BOOT COMPANY - ENID JUSTIN, PRESIDENT / DEPT. NF4781 / P.O. BOX 696 / NOCONA, TEXAS 76255 / 817-825-3321

Western Wear and Equipment

(Continued from Page 28)

(Clockwise, from right) **The latest from Hondo Boot Company features a 16" deep scalloped top and four rows of stitching. These unique rope design padded belts from Tony Lama feature top cowhide and stained edges. *At left,* H Bar C/California Ranchwear introduces the men's "Mountain" plaid jacket, an 80 percent wool and 20 percent nylon fabric with permanent pile lining.**

YELLOW JACKET

Beyond high velocity: the hyper velocity 22.

The Remington "Yellow Jacket" could well be the perfect all-around, high performance 22. For small game, for varmints, for targets and tin cans.

It gives you near-magnum velocity, improved accuracy, our *easy-chambering standard Long Rifle case.* And unique truncated cone, hollow point bullets for more explosive on-target energy.

Best of all, you get all this for just pennies more per box than conventional high velocity 22s. Learn more about "Yellow Jacket" 22s from your dealer, or write for our new full-line catalog.

Remington DU PONT

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WOLVERINE TOUGH OUTSIDE PURE COMFORT INSIDE

Farming takes all the help you can get. And these Wolverine® Boots work everywhere you do. From muddy fields to soggy orchards to rock hard roads.

They're with you on the job with oil-tanned, full grain leather uppers. Full-cushion insoles and oil-resistant outsoles. Sturdy steel shanks. And tough welt construction.

That's why Wolverine® Boots help over one million farmers with their chores every day.

Isn't it time to put them to work for you?

WOLVERINE®
Boots& Shoes

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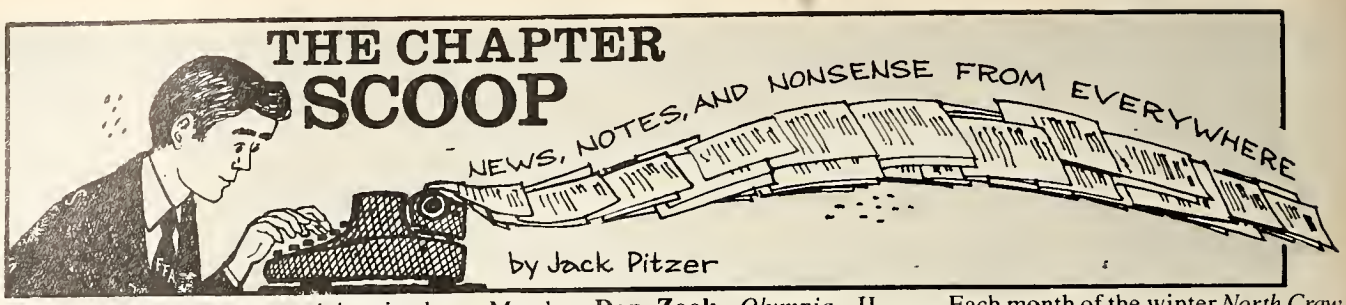


The fishing was poor and it rained every day on *Balko,* OK, big father-son fishing trip. But water skiing was good and fellowship made it all fun anyway.

N-N-N

Oshkosh West, WI, members worked on a local dairy farm for Farm City Day as parking lot attendants, milking demonstrators and hosts at various exhibits.

N-N-N

Jeff Burns, received *Zillah,* WA, FFA Alumni scholarship and a local garden club scholarship to attend university to study production horticulture.

N-N-N

Return address on envelope of *Muscatine,* IA, Chapter says "Iowa's Oldest Active Chapter."

N-N-N

Besides citrus, *Merino,* CO, sells apples, pears, bananas and pineapples.

N-N-N

For one meeting, *Shelby,* MT, had a chicken barbeque at 6 p.m., then started the meeting at 7 p.m.

N-N-N

Even though *Goddard,* NM, lost the softball game with *Roswell,* NM, they did eat the most barbeque.

N-N-N

Horticulture students of *District 214* FFA in Illinois take products they've grown or made and sell them back at their high schools—floral arrangements and corsages for Valentine's and Mother's Days or for school dances.

N-N-N

Glencoe, MN, had a cow chip throwing contest to generate interest during FFA WEEK.

N-N-N

For the second year in a row *Toulon,* IL, had its Christmas toy repair for the community.

N-N-N

Wheatland, WY, had Rocky Mountain oysters courtesy of Double S Ranch after chapter's degree night ceremonies.

N-N-N

Gilroy, CA, bought an FFA billboard from the FFA Supply Service and put it up themselves.

Member **Don Zook**, *Olympia,* IL, Chapter will be the auctioneer for the FFA slave sale.

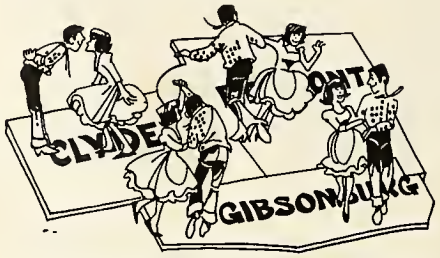
N-N-N

An officer leadership conference for all FFA members, vocational club officers and student council leaders was hosted by *Mexico,* MO, Chapter. They used a national officer and a staff of past and present state officers.

N-N-N

Herbert Gingras, Susan Bibber, Chad Elliott, Diane Forcier, Stephen McKenzie, Wendy Caron, Lynda Howe and **Beth Hodil** won Dale Carnegie course scholarships in *Dover,* NH.

N-N-N



A countywide square dance was successful for *Gibsonburg, Clyde* and *Fremont,* OH, Chapters.

N-N-N

Delegate to National FFA sponsored Washington Leadership Conference program from *Kewaunee,* WI, was paid for from building picnic tables.

N-N-N

Have you and your chapter contributed a buck each for the National FFA Hall of Achievement?

N-N-N

New t-shirts for *Sandy,* OR, FFA officer team say "This is no ordinary President (or vice president or secretary) you're dealing with."

N-N-N

Wonder who judged the cake and pie baking contest of *Housatonic Valley,* CT?

N-N-N

New bleachers this fall for *Ansonia,* OH, thanks to FFA who did the job of assembling and painting.

N-N-N

FFA got 30 bags of trash on a two-mile stretch in a countywide pick-up according to **Joe Bowman** of *Central* FFA in Woodstock, VA.

N-N-N

Stonewall Jackson got 40 bags in the same clean-up. All workers got free hot dogs and a fun evening as reward.

N-N-N

Members gave a toast to their parents in opening of *Blackhawk,* PA, banquet.

Each month of the winter *North Crawford,* WI, members play bingo with residents of a local nursing home.

N-N-N

North Crawford's scholarship committee also sponsors an in-school quiz bowl each year between grades at the school. Teachers make up questions. Class of '81 won it this year.

N-N-N

Wes Ritchey, president of *Dalhart,* TX, Chapter has been getting his officer team together twice a month to be ready for a big new year.

N-N-N

Kelley Schudy sent word that *Mountain Grove,* MO, members got their money together and bought a bred ewe for Advisor **Mulbery.**

N-N-N

Members of *Enola,* AR, helped extinguish fire at an elderly couple's home in their school district.

N-N-N

FFA played the county sheriff's department in a donkey basketball game in *Ravenna,* OH.

N-N-N

Officers of *Imboden,* AR, placed an ad in a local paper to honor Advisor **Burrow.**

N-N-N

The chapter held fund raisers to help out two *Mission Viejo,* CA, members whose steers were hit by a car after vandals had opened the barn door.

N-N-N

After *Lafayette,* TN, paper drive on a rainy weekend, the money and members were a little soggy but earned $1,064.

N-N-N

Doug Zimmerman and **Mark Garber** built mailboxes for *Conrad Weiser,* PA, Chapter officers to get mail, letters, committee reports.

N-N-N

Fremont, OH, made 27 backboards (used by hospitals and ambulance crews for victims of neck, back and leg injuries). Boards were cut out; lettered, sanded and varnished by FFA. Young Farmers paid for materials.

WHEN THE WEATHER GOES AGAINST YOUR GRAIN, BE GLAD YOU OWN A MASSEY.

Dependable Perkins diesels give you the power you need and the built-in fuel efficiency you want. Easy to service, easy to keep going.

Electronic in-cab monitor keeps tabs on 22 different combine functions.

Grain tables and corn heads: rigid grain tables available from 13-30 foot widths. 13-20 foot floating cutterbar tables for soybeans. 3-row wide to 8-row narrow corn heads.

Hi-inertia rasp bar cylinder maintains constant threshing speed and extra power to get through slugs and tough spots.

Floating cutterbar header closely follows the contour of the ground to save more soybeans.

Under perfect conditions, most combines will get your crop in. Some better than others. But the more you're fighting the weather, the better Massey-Ferguson looks.

Massey-Ferguson combines have proven their ability to keep you going in tough, weedy, damp conditions when the other combines stop.

Exclusive features like MF's hi-inertia cylinder, triple-screen shoe and rasp-bar rethresher put a cleaner grain sample in the tank and spit less out the back.

The Massey-Ferguson cab is human engineered for comfort and control. That means top efficiency day after day.

Choose from four proven Massey-Ferguson combines: the MF 540 corn and soybean specialist, the popular MF 550, and the giant MF 750/760 combines, the choice of North America's professional farmers and custom cutters.

See the Massey-Ferguson combines at your Massey-Ferguson dealer. He has the parts, service and financing to meet your needs.

For information or the name of your nearby Massey-Ferguson dealer, call 1-800-247-4089 toll free. (In Iowa, call 1-800-422-3149.) Or mail coupon below.

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Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

☐ Farmer ☐ Student Acres Farmed _____

Combine requirements:

☐ MF 540 ☐ MF 550 ☐ MF 750 ☐ MF 760

Mail coupon to: Massey-Ferguson, Inc
P.O. Box 65486
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Instructor Edsel Redden, left, watches over the work of two FFA members enrolled in the chapter meat cutting course.

It is the prize-winning cured ham that the chapter is most famous for and has earned their reputation in the community.

Sides of bacon are carefully prepared for state-wide FFA ham, bacon and egg shows. Shady Spring is equipped to handle meat curing and processing.

Their Agribusiness is

Meat Processing

AFTER hours at most high schools is usually quiet. The vocational agriculture department may be buzzing with practice for judging events, or the gym may be full of athletes in training. However, at the Shady Spring FFA and vocational agriculture building, a different kind of buzz is in the air—the sound of whirling blades and cooler motors.

"Our vo-ag department owns about $85,000 worth of meat processing equipment," says Edsel Redden, an energetic vo-ag teacher and FFA advisor who teaches along with Joe McDougal. "That gives us a fully equipped laboratory for vocational training in meat cutting."

Vocational agriculture students who wish to prepare for a career in meat processing, or who want the experience, can learn nearly all facets of the business in the Shady Spring, West Virginia, program. Many adults from the community have taken advantage of the program as well, resulting in a number of graduates to the meat processing industry.

"We're just now getting the program established," says Edsel, reflecting over five years of planning and work. "The state department of vocational agriculture has helped greatly with start-up monies. They funded the program's beginnings but the students have done much of the work."

The meat processing facility is an impressive sight, with its ceramic tile walls, stainless steel tables, large sinks and coolers. The building of the facility was a learning experience in itself for many Shady Spring FFA members.

"We were able to put our shop classes to good use," muses Edsel. "For instance, the agricultural mechanics students took over the masonry work, such as laying the blocks for the building itself and pouring the floors. The community pitched in with donations of equipment such as sinks, curing tables and a band saw."

Presently, five students are enrolled in the meats program. Twelve are slated for the coming year. All vo-ag students are required to take a short, introductory course in meat processing, because as Edsel says, "We can teach some basic principles of marketing and ag-busi-

(Continued on Page 41)

LOOK AT THE LEADER

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FINE QUALITY WESTERN WEAR
PROUD TO BE AMERICAN

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FFA IN ACTION

MEMORIAL TREES

The Southeast Warren FFA of Liberty Center, Iowa, planted trees on Arbor Day this year. The trees were planted in memory of two members, Steve Harmison and David Boll, who were killed in an accident in February. Both were avid outdoorsmen and loved to hunt and fish. By planting the trees in the school yard with a ceremony and the student body looking on, the FFA hopes to add emphasis to driver safety among the student body and all local citizens. There were 11 boys killed in car accidents in the last two years in the community. Carl Jones, an FFA senior, was killed on the last day of school this spring.

BUCKS FOR BATTERIES

The North Iredell, North Carolina, Chapter recently raised $372.30 for the National Hemophilia Foundation by collecting old batteries. The chapter collected approximately 75 batteries (2,920 pounds) and sold them to Martin's Scrap Recycling in Concord.

The project was begun as result of the endorsement given by the state association of this worthwhile project. Hemophilia is a disease which affects approximately 1,000 North Carolina families. The chapter adopted the campaign as a part of its BOAC project to raise money for the Hemophilia Foundation and conserve energy in the recycling of old batteries.

Batteries were collected by the FFA members and Todd Bunton was the North Iredell member bringing in the most batteries.

Left to right are Don Sharpe, volunteer for the Hemophilia Foundation and Todd Bunton, best battery collector.

COLOR IT HOT

The Mountain Grove, Missouri, FFA safety committee has an extensive program going to create public awareness for fire safety.

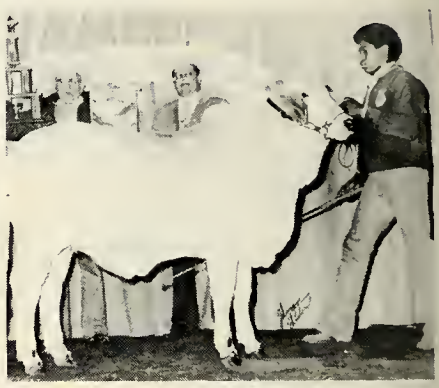
One way the chapter decided to reach the citizens was through their children. The safety committee sponsored a coloring contest for the elementary school children. A fire safety day was declared and the fire department came over and demonstrated the use of the fire engines and fire fighting equipment.

The elementary children got a big bang out of the coloring contest and participation was great.

The committee has also sponsored safety drives, brought a conservation agent to show a film "Fighting Fire Missouri Style" to the Mountain Grove Alumni. *(Kelley Schudy, Reporter)*

FFA COPS BRAHMAN SHOW

Brehnam, Texas, FFA's Rodney Hubert exhibited the grand champion female, Miss Loys Manso, at the 1980 Houston Livestock Show's Junior Brahman Heifer Show. Pictured (left to right) are Carter M. Dibrell, Brenham's vo-ag instructor; the judge, Jim Williams, Hungerford, Texas; and Rodney. Reserve was shown by J. Boone Koonce of Wharton FFA. Top showman was Tawnya Grooms of Kilgore FFA.



SAFETY CYCLISTS

The Oldham County FFA Chapter of Buckner, Kentucky, chapter safety program included a bicycle safety clinic held for third grade students at a local elementary school.

These students were given instruction in bicycle safety and were then required to drive a bicycle through a marked course.

Participating students were judged on balance, coordination and stopping and starting ability. Those who completed the course successfully were awarded Junior Bicycle Driving Licenses from the Kentucky State Police, safety reflector patches and free food coupons from the LaGrange Burger Queen restaurant.

Other safety activities of the chapter included a special safety week observation signed into effect by County Judge Wendall Moore; a Red Cross bloodmo-

(Continued on Page 39)

DEKALB Knows What It Takes To Be A Leader

For nearly seven decades, DEKALB has been a leader in agricultural technology. Today, DEKALB AgResearch, Inc. is a growing, diversified company involved in developing food and energy for the future. Our rich research heritage forms the foundation for a genetic research program that is unequalled by any company in the world.

DEKALB recognizes that today's youth are tomorrow's agricultural leaders. To encourage young people to choose agricultural careers, the company has sponsored the DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award since 1947. Today, more than 4,000 high schools participate in this prestigious awards program.

Through this award and a 4-H scholarship program, DEKALB encourages leadership, scholarship and agricultural training to help talented young people stay within the exciting field of agriculture.

For more information on DEKALB sponsored youth programs, write to DEKALB AgResearch, Inc., Sycamore Road, DeKalb, IL 60115.

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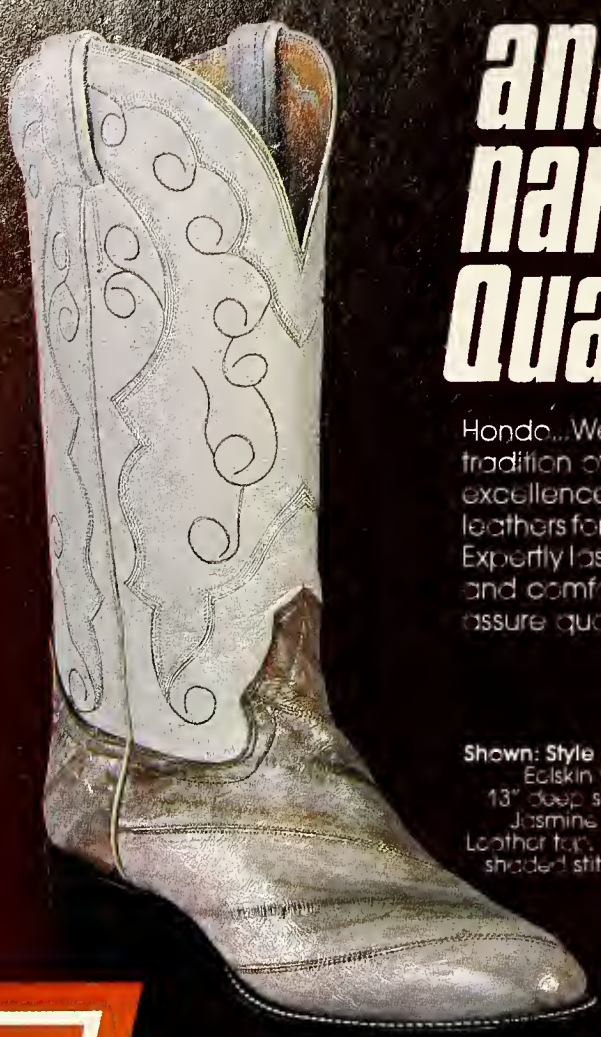
Hondo...Western boots with a tradition of handcrafted excellence. Styled from the finest leathers for beauty and durability. Expertly lasted for the ultimate in fit and comfort. Hand-finished to assure quality — pair after pair.



Shown: Style #8000
Eelskin vamp, 13" deep scallop Jasmine Glove Leather top, 6 rows shaded stitching.

Shown: #8020
Maple Cabretta, 13" deep scallop top, 6 rows shaded stitching, toe medallion.

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FFA IN ACTION

(Continued from Page 36)

bile sponsored by FFA; 100 safety posters placed in businesses throughout the county; and safety demonstration on fire safety, chemical safety and chainsaw safety. Tammy Williams served as chairman for the safety activities.

ENERGY ACTION:

UPDATE ON CHAPTER'S SEMINAR

Here is a report on the Energy Seminar conducted by Brockway, Pennsylvania, FFA. It was originally announced in the April-May, 1980, *The National FUTURE FARMER*.

The seminar began at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 3. The morning was devoted to demonstrations and displays. Some of the displays were energy books from the Brockway Library, an energy simulator sponsored by Unilec, chainsaws displayed by Laird Synder's Small Engine Repair of Falls Creek and Key's Recreational Vehicles of Brookville. Other displays included log splitting demonstration and solar heaters.

The afternoon was devoted to an energy forum. This forum was a chance for the people to hear from a panel of speakers and was moderated by chapter President Donald Hrinya.

The forum ended by the presentation of a door prize. The prize, a face cord of wood, was presented to a local citizen.

STAR OF THE SHOW

As students representing agriculture we felt that we must help tell the story of farming to urban areas of the country. So our Cory-Rawson, Ohio, Chapter used the Food For America program to provide basic information about agriculture to elementary children.

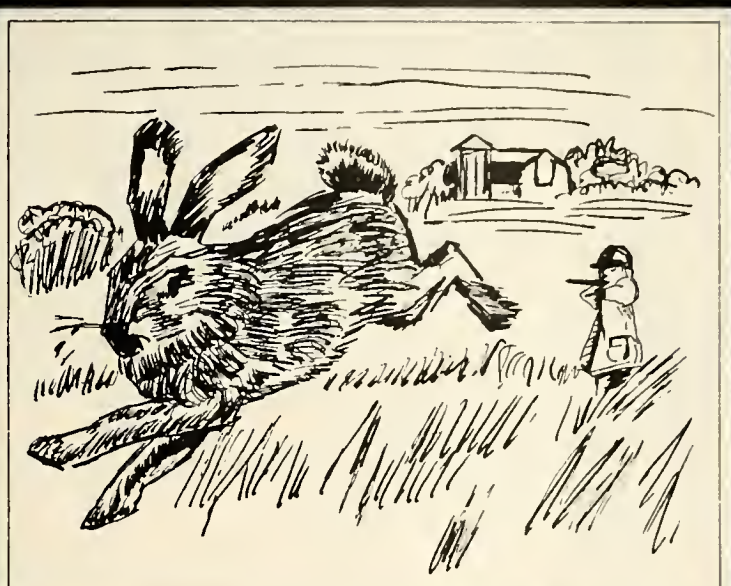
The first year we presented the program to 90 second graders in our own school. It went so well that this year we expanded into nearby Findlay, Ohio, city school system. In all we talked to almost 600 students from 13 different schools, one school at a time. Class sizes ranged from 16 to over 70 students. We found that groups of 50 and under were the easiest to work with.

The program consists of two parts, the classroom demonstration and the farm tour. When presenting the classroom demonstration, we worked in teams of two and used all the typical materials available in the Food For America packet—film, props, coloring books.

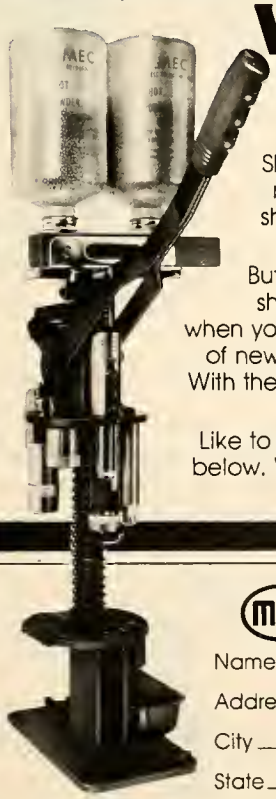
We then demonstrated how to plant beans, showed them toy tractors and fi-

(Continued on page 44)

Shooting Is More Fun When It Costs Less



Reload Your Own Shells With a Low Cost MEC 600 Jr.



Shooting at predators and "plinking" at tin cans is more than just fun. While you're having fun you're sharpening your shooting eye for the open season on birds and small game.

But shooting predators and "plinking" takes a lot of shells. And shells are expensive. Right? Wrong! Not when you reload your own shells. Reloads cost a fraction of new shells. And reloading is easy with a MEC 600 Jr. With the budget-priced MEC 600 Jr., anyone can reload shells to factory specs.

Like to know more? Just fill out and send us the coupon below. We'll send you free information on how to reload — and save money, too.

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Dept. FF Mayville, WI 53050

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Your Supply Service Speaks!!

A word about the Official FFA Jacket. During the period from September 15 thru November 30 we will process orders for over 75,000 jackets—a full three quarters of the total years sale. This places a heavy burden on your Supply Service and its suppliers. Please order early—and wait your turn. We will make every effort to deliver your jackets as quickly as possible. We hope that you will only use the telephone for extreme emergencies.

OFFICIAL FFA JEANS AVAILABLE

New! This fall! Official FFA Jeans by Lee! Full 14 oz. denim, boot cut, with FFA and Lee patches in leather. Prices will be geared for quantity shipments (6 or more), but we will have a small quantity on hand for small orders as a convenience. Six or more units will be drop shipped direct from the factory. Look for complete details in the new catalog.

Also available will be Hard Hats, safety goggles, safety glasses and respirator. The hard hat has the FFA emblem on front. The goggles and glasses should be worn while engaged in any activity where the eyes should be protected. The respirator is fully certified for protection against pesticides, organic vapors, dust and mist, by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

National Farm Safety Week is July 25-31.

OFFICIAL FFA WATCHES AVAILABLE

New! From TIMEX! Official FFA watches! For both boys and girls, in 4 styles, gold or silver colors. Will make ideal gifts for friends of FFA or for your own personal use. Will be fully advertised in the new catalog. Look for them.

Also available this fall! Corsage ribbons, imprinted with FFA letters and emblems; white short sleeve dress shirts, new trophies and plaques and other requested items.

REMEMBER! The National FFA Supply Service is owned and operated by the National FFA Organization and is the only source for OFFICIAL FFA items. A complete catalog is mailed to all advisors in early August. Look for your chapters copy.

NATIONAL FFA SUPPLY SERVICE

P. O. Box 15159
Alexandria, Virginia 22309

Meat Cutting

(Continued from Page 34)

ness." During the eleventh and twelfth grade, however, the program is an elective, taken only by those students vitally interested. Seniors spend three hours a day learning the business, 85 percent of the time in lab with hands-on experience.

"There's a good future in meat processing," assures Jimmy Furrow, a senior FFA member enrolled in the program. "Everybody in the morning class, which is set up to provide for on-site learning, has been placed in a job. The variety of jobs makes it appealing. Grocery stores, slaughter houses, custom meat packing plants—these places all need skilled workers."

The course outline for meat processing, developed by Redden and McDougal, takes in all areas. An introduction to the industry is followed by an extensive study of meat identification, judging, killing room slaughtering, classification, fabrication, and marketing to name a few. Students are introduced to subjects ranging from killing room safety procedures to slaughter by-products such as lard rendering. But the classroom isn't the only place of instruction.

"After school," says student Jay Blevings, "we go to different types of meat processing jobs. Some things, such as order placing and inventory, are best learned actually on-site. But the needs of students differ quite a bit."

Jay is preparing for a career in a slaughtering plant, quite different from the students who choose a career in butchering. Processes such as transporting live animals, killing and dehairing may not apply to the student interested in commercial butchering. Likewise, a grocery store butcher must master skills uncommon to custom slaughtering.

Gary Meador, 17, is a junior FFA member who's chosen meat processing training. He's had some experience from the slaughter of his own animals, including hogs that he's seen from slaughter through to cured hams. At one ham, bacon and egg show, an event unique to West Virginia, Gary sold a bacon for $16.50 per pound, the grand champion. But now, Gary's involved in professional butchering.

"I'm here at Elliott's Family Food store in the morning," he says, never missing a cut on a piece of loin. "We mainly learn to cut custom cuts at the vo-ag building, so working in the store rounds my education. You might say I'm learning to cut commercially, that is, retail cuts for grocery shoppers. I'm learning the in's and out's of packaging and display, two business practices that are important in the retail store."

"Speed's the key in grocery store butchering," adds John Miller, Gary's boss and the store's head butcher. "A student can learn to do all this but only practice can increase efficiency in cutting."

"We kill from the hoof and cut around 200 hogs and 85 head of beef during a school year," says Edsel. "But we only take enough animals to run the program, to keep the lab running. State regulations are such that we can't run a business here, but we do follow standards and codes."

"I quit my after school job for health reasons . . . I got sick of it!"

West Virginia state laws disallow Shady Spring from selling the meat that's processed in the school lab. The meat industry is governed by strict rules of sanitation, grading and similar measures, so Shady Spring gives students a preview of things to come. The working areas are all closely examined for cleanliness and adherence to the simulated state laws. Because of the myriad of regulations imposed on agribusinesses, Shady Spring has adopted a unique way of maintaining the meat cutting operation.

"If an individual wants a piece of meat," explains Edsel, "be it a ham, bacon or whatever, we can find the animal but the customer must pay the cost. We don't charge anything for the cutting, but people in the community are real supporters. They usually reimburse us in the form of donations."

The money that's brought in to the program through donations is put back into equipment and operating expenses.

The meat processing lab at Shady Spring provides a number of valuable services to all segments of the community. With a high placement rate, the students are obviously benefitting. And, who knows, you may find yourself in need of a country cured ham some day. If you're around Shady Spring, you might find an FFA member ready to sell.

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From Gavel to Groves

A past national FFA president continues to lead farmers as head of an orange growers' cooperative.

By Gary Bye

EVER wonder what happens to national FFA presidents after 20 years? *The National FUTURE FARMER* recently traveled to Visalia, California, to find an answer to that question.

The candidate of our search was 1958-59 National FFA President Adin Hester. Adin was an energetic young dairy farmer when elected national president. His herd of 25 registered Guernseys was part of a larger family dairy operation near Canby, Oregon. Adin also had managed a 70 head dairy herd for an ailing neighbor.

So twenty years later what would you expect to find? A successful dairyman with hundreds of cows? Wrong.

Adin Hester is now president and general manager of California Citrus Mutual, a commodity association made up of over 2,000 farmers.

"Our farmers represent over 45,000 acres of oranges," says Hester. "That is about 35 percent of all the oranges grown in northern California." The numbers are impressive when you discover that the co-op has been in existence only since November 1, 1977, when Hester was signed on.

"We're a commodity association charged with disseminating information on the orange industry," explains the enterprising executive. "We tell farmers what is happening to the markets, what kind of quality we're shipping to the markets, what prices are, and how handlers are treating their produce. We want to make sure our growers are being treated fairly and are receiving adequate compensation for their produce."

To do this Hester is routinely in touch with markets all over the United States, talking to them about prices, fruit movement and quality of fruit as it arrives. He also asks about consumer reaction to the product.

On the growers behalf the cooperative gets involved with state and national legislation and regulatory action affecting them. Hester serves as a representative at hearings to voice the cooperative's view that an orange grower must be protected from regulations keeping him from managing his orchard properly.

"We like to think we're the grower's hired hand beyond the farm gate," says Hester. "We get involved in the critical areas of marketing and regulation that a farmer may not know about or may not have time to worry about."

Annual membership in the co-op costs 50 cents per ton of oranges marketed. That works out to about one cent per packed carton of oranges.

Hester's move from dairyman in Oregon to co-op president in California is not as hard to follow as you may think.

"Until I graduated from high school my lifetime plan was to stay on the farm and run a dairy," says Hester. "But through my experience and exposure with the FFA, I found that a continuing education was extremely important.

Adin Hester holds samples of the citrus fruit he now works to promote.

"Later, with my experience as a national officer and with college training, I could see opportunities in agriculture beyond the farm level."

In addition to those reasons for leaving the farm, Hester says he had three younger brothers at home who also liked working on the farm. One of those brothers now runs the family farm operation.

The FFA agribusiness program didn't exist when Hester was national president. Yet, he says the inclusion of the agribusiness incentive program initiated in 1968 was a natural and necessary evolution for the FFA.

"There are thousands of farm related occupations now in existence," he says. "Many are good paying and exciting jobs. With less opportunities available to farm, students should consider agribusiness as an alternative.

"It's part of the free enterprise system," he continues. "The individual with the ambition, the creativity and the will to get ahead has the opportunity to do so. The FFA opens a lot of doors, even in classroom work, through parliamentary procedure, public speaking and agricultural concepts. Those experiences give the FFA member a head start toward success."

Hester is a living example. After graduation from college he worked his way from field representative and fruit buyer to supervisor in a fruit processing plant. He left that company in 1969 to become executive vice president and general manager of the San Joaquin Vegetable Growers Association. And finally in 1977 he accepted his present position.

Through his work he has traveled to several foreign countries and throughout the United States.

Now you know an example of what happens to FFA national presidents after 20 years. At least this one is as enthused about agriculture as when he surrendered the gavel in 1959. Today with a terrific job, a wife and three daughters, Adin Hester's biggest challenge is what to do with this year's orange crop, one of the biggest and best ever produced.

FFA IN ACTION

(Continued from Page 39)

nally brought in the star of the show—the six-week-old baby pig they named "Porky." Many had never been that close to a farm animal before.

About three weeks later we set up a farm tour on the David Westall farm outside of Mt. Cory, Ohio. There we had all types of machinery and about 12 different kinds of farm animals. Chapter FFA members were stationed at each stall as the kids were divided up into groups and given the tour. Findlay Implement also donated hot chocolate and cookies for the event and area newspapers were also present to take pictures and interviews.

FACTS FOR ACTION

This handy "hazard hunter's" check list is for just one particular area on farms or ranches where there needs to be some attention given to safety. It was prepared by the National Safety Council.

Agricultural Chemical Storage

☐ Are chemicals stored in a building, room or cabinet that cannot be entered by children or animals?

☐ Is the storage place reserved for chemicals only and never for human or animal food or medicine?

☐ Is a sign posted at the entrance to warn others of the hazards inside, and to inform fire fighters of the contents to aid fire-fighting strategy?

☐ Are chemicals stored in their original containers and left-overs never transferred to food containers?

☐ Do you have a plan for disposing of containers and left-over chemicals?

☐ Are chemicals mixed outside or in an open, well ventilated part of the building? Is storage area ventilated?

☐ Is the chemical storage area well lighted so chemicals can be identified and labels easily read?

☐ If a number of different chemicals are used, is the storage area equipped to keep them separate?

Everyone got to try their hand at goat milking during the FFA demonstration.

WISCONSIN DOES IT AGAIN: AN ALUMNI FIRST

Another alumni milestone has been reached by Wisconsin during 1980. The entire FFA officer team has become lifetime members of the National and Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association. This group has energetically promoted the FFA Alumni concept throughout the year during their chapter visits. This support has led to the establishment of 18 new affiliates and 864 additional members.

GOAT MILKING MADE MEANINGFUL

The Greenville, Ohio, FFA recently assisted in conducting a nutrition day for pre-schoolers participating in the child care program. FFA members participated as part of the Food For America program.

Members Shawn Keiser, John Simons, Mike Leis and Jeff Didier demonstrated goat milking to the amusement of all. Students, teachers and preschoolers were all encouraged to try their hand. Other events included baking, butter churning and discussions on nutrition for the pre-schoolers. *(Tim Reser, Assistant Reporter)*

TRAVELING ZOO

The Clovis, California, FFA Chapter has been traveling around to local elementary schools with their "petting zoo."

The zoo began during National FFA WEEK and was such a success that other elementary schools requested it. Teachers bring the students out and they are turned over to an FFA group leader. The group leader answers all the questions the children may have and also asks them questions. The leader takes them to each animal and there is another member there who talks about that particular animal.

This has been an excellent program to build the chapter and inform others just what the FFA is all about. The children are also learning about animals in agriculture and someday they may be interested in becoming a part of the Future Farmers of America. *(Traci O'Leary, Reporter)*

BLUE JACKET CREATOR HONORED

When the Fredericktown, Ohio, FFA recently held their annual banquet, over 360 guests greeted Mr. J. H. Lintner with a hearty "Welcome Back Gus."

Lintner, who is known by friends and former students as "Gus," taught vocational agriculture at Fredericktown for 17 years.

He was also the designer of the origi-

ACTION LINES ➤ ➤ ➤ ➤ ➤

- Make a Christmas ornament out of corn shucks.
- Read a book.
- Do you have an FFA wrist watch?
- Send a thank you note to the banker who loaned you money to get an SOEP.
- Start a collection of something that's just "you"—like farm caps.
- Plant a tree in your parents yard for them to grow after you leave home.
- Clean off the work bench in the shop for your dad.
- How about a sandwich of cream cheese and grape jelly on a bagel?
- Take some pictures on the FFA camping trip.
- Just go ahead and say hello to her.
- Ride a train across your state (before they're all gone).
- Bring home a rose for your mom for packing your suitcase.
- Offer to usher at church.
- Whistle while you cut weeds.
- Put a surprise note to your dad or brother in their lunch.
- Decorate the kitchen table with a shock of wheat or oats.

nal FFA jacket and organizer of the first FFA Band. He started a lot of traditions at Fredericktown that grew into national prominence. Lintner talked about the first vo-ag banquet held at Fredericktown in 1927 and went on to discuss the trip to the National Convention in 1932 with the Fredericktown FFA Band and their new uniforms which later became a part of the official dress for the FFA. *(Dan Humphrey, Advisor)*

OUTGOING OFFICERS TRAIN INCOMING TEAM

In a lakeside setting near the east Texas town of Trinidad, newly-elected area officers of the Texas Association's ten areas came together to work on speaking, to learn about their duties and to just plain get acquainted.

From these area officers, the state association's president and other major officers were elected in July to serve next year. Because Texas is so big some of the officers logged quite a few miles getting there. It wasn't uncommon to talk to folks who'd driven 500 miles or more.

It was worth it, though. This year's ten outgoing state officers, headed by President David Alders, past National Public Speaking winner, put on a conference that might well have been subtitled "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Being An FFA Officer —And Now You Won't Have To Ask." Public speaking, motivating others, making a good first impression, working with the news media, all that and more was offered to the 80 or so participants.

They did have to put in some work during the conference though. There was a test to see just how much they knew about the FFA (sample question: "There are seven taxonomies in vocational agriculture. Name them."). All the officers had to give a three-minute speech (which they had not been told about until the night before). They were interviewed on tape by state officers playing the role of newsmen.

But it wasn't all work. There was plenty of recreation with swimming, basketball, volleyball and good old-fashioned fun. Former National FFA President Ken Johnson, who works at the Texas Power and Light camp where the conference was held, helped out on that end as a conference director. Former state officer Randy Green, an intern as Farm and Ranch Director at WFAA-TV in Dallas, was the conference director.

Sponsor for the successful conference was the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The show's general manager, Dick Weekley, a former Texas FFA executive secretary, attended part of the conference.

Like many officer training sessions in the FFA, the newly elected Texas Association officers were taken through their paces to sharpen their skills at speaking, discussion, committee work. Participation was the name of the game.

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Feathers for Flies

In this unique agribusiness, FFA member Scott Martin and his farm are growing from ambition.

Scott exhibits a Plymouth Barred Rock rooster, above, which he raises to produce neck feathers, like those at the left, which become fishing flies. The saddle feathers are made into streamer flies.

By Norman E. Johnson

THERE are many reasons for being in the poultry business—egg production, broilers, hatching eggs or turkey production. But southeast of the small, rural community of Berthoud, Colorado, exists one of the most unusual poultry operations in the nation.

Nestled near the foothills of the Rocky Mountains lies the beautiful home and poultry farm of the Martins. In 1971, a friend of Brian Martin informed him that good quality feathers for fishing flies were very hard to find. Because they were avid fishermen, the Martins were motivated to get into their now-successful business of raising Plymouth Barred Rock poultry exclusively for their feathers.

Brian's son, Scott, is a member of the Berthoud branch of the Larimer County FFA Chapter which holds classes and meetings at the Larimer County Vocational-Technical Center in Fort Collins, Colorado. The Plymouth Barred Rock poultry operation is a joint family-owned business by Scott and his family and serves as Scott's FFA project.

"We started with 101 run-of-the-mill Barred Rocks from hatch and did little more than break even. They just paid for their feed," claims Scott, reflecting on the operation's founding stages. After the initial founding of the business, the Martins began inquiring about sources for better quality breeders throughout the United States. They found four other Plymouth Barred Rock breeder sources. One in Ohio raised the Rocks for show birds. The others were in Oregon and Pennsylvania. These were the only other known operations raising Barred Rocks for their feathers. Another breeder source later found was chickens raised in India and marketed in the States. "They have a large quantity but low quality for our purpose," Scott remarks. After purchasing chickens from these new sources, the flock's quality vastly improved. Now the Martins are proud to claim being the largest Plymouth Barred Rock breeder for feathers in the country.

Since introduction of higher quality roosters to their operation, income and profits have vastly increased. "Quality of feathers," according to Scott, "is the lines of patterns which appear on the feather. We look for uniformity of black and white in parallel throughout the whole bird. The barbs of the feather are also important. They have to be stiff. The test we use is pricking the lip with the barb. If the barbs are stiff, we can use them. We also look for the amount of barbules. For our purpose, we don't want a lot of barbules because if there are a lot of barbules present, the feather will hold water and sink. They don't make very good fishing flies!"

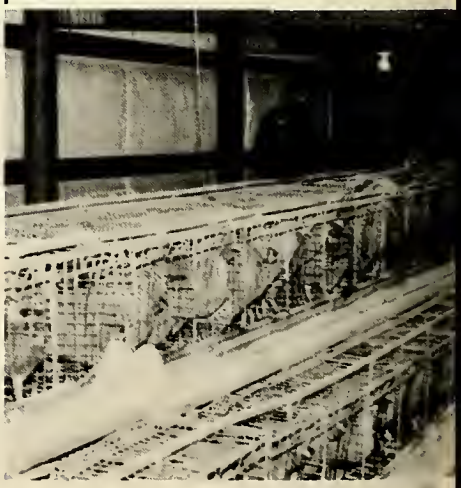
A barb is a hairlike branch growing from the shaft of a feather. Barbules are thread-like parts fringing each side of the barb. Barbules, in a sense, form a mesh between the barbs on a feather.

The majority of the feathers used from a rooster are from his neck. These are made into the standard type fishing flies. The feathers from the saddle, the rear part of the back, are utilized in the making of streamer flies. Surprisingly, the composition and physical characteristics of wing feathers means they cannot be used for flies. Feathers from hens are not desired for use due to the physical difference and length of feathers. Hens are used only for breeding purposes.

With over 10,000 Plymouth Barred Rocks year-round, the Martins' operation peaks at over 12,000 in the summer. The totally enclosed operation results in over 2,000 chicks a week in the summer. Out of the 2,000 chicks hatched, only the cockerels, or young males, are kept except for excellent pullets which are kept for breeding purposes. The remainder of the pullets are sold.

The entirety of production including

Three tiers high and four rows deep, over 12,000 caged roosters are in production.



breeding, incubating, raising, slaughtering, skinning and packaging for market is done on the premises of the Martin farm.

After eggs are laid by hens, they are taken and placed in incubators. This prevents the hens from becoming broody hens. A broody hen will not lay more eggs until her existing eggs are hatched and the young are raised. Any egg capable of hatching, one that isn't odd-shaped or cracked, goes into incubation. Incubation lasts for 21 days at a constant temperature of 99 ¾°F.

"Chickens will breed and lay eggs year-round under the right conditions," explains Scott. "They require about 14 hours of light and warm temperatures. We control hatching in the winter. Winter is usually hard on chicks and increases the electric bill. Some of the chicks hatched in the winter seem to be stunted and don't grow as fast as ones hatched in summer. They are pushed away from food since there aren't as many chicks around as in the summer. The stronger ones survive but are stunted in growth and the weaker ones die. Money-wise at present, it just isn't worth taking special care of them. Our near future plans of expansion will eliminate most of this problem since we will be able to allow breeding year around."

Average age before market is 1½ to 2 years old. After the roosters are slaughtered, skinned and packaged, the feather clad skins are sold to a local sporting goods chain under an exclusive contract. The feathers are then sent to Japan and/or Guatemala where the fishing flies are manufactured. The flies are then marketed throughout the U.S. and Canada to be purchased by anxious fishermen.

Scott does not show his poultry at exhibits; they are raised exclusively for breeding and "feather farming." After Scott graduates from high school, he plans to continue with the family business. "We plan to continue to build and expand and operate with over 20,000 Barred Rocks year around. We have a use permit which protects us for up to 62,000." Scott now owns 25 percent of the business, his parents own 25 percent and his two brothers each own 25 percent.

As an active member of the FFA, Scott is on the ag mechanics team and has received the Chapter Farmer degree and scholarship award. For his excellent performance with the Plymouth Barred Rock operation, he has also received the record book award and a chapter proficiency award. Such accomplishments, no doubt, reflect the character of the Martin poultry farm—growing from ambition.

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You bet there's a way to get blue FFA jackets into every home and business in your community. The National FFA Organization publishes the FFA Home and Office Style calendar to do just that. It has 12 color photos of FFA members and their advisors in action in all sorts of typical vo-ag learning situations.

Your chapter should consider using this tried and proven way to promote FFA. The Calendar Program offered by the Organization is easy to use, can fit the financial situations of about every kind of chapter and is already used by chapters everywhere.

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Fund raising options are available.

And best of all, the quality calendars will get used by the folks who receive them. Every time the wife checks her calendar, or the husband checks to see when the game is, or the son looks up to see when school vacation starts, they will see FFA blue jackets right there in the home. Businessmen and farmers like to use them to jot down dates and meetings.

Let the blue jackets on FFA calendars go out and promote your chapter. If your chapter isn't using Official FFA Calendars, ask your advisor to look up the information in the FFA catalog. Or send for free samples from the address below.

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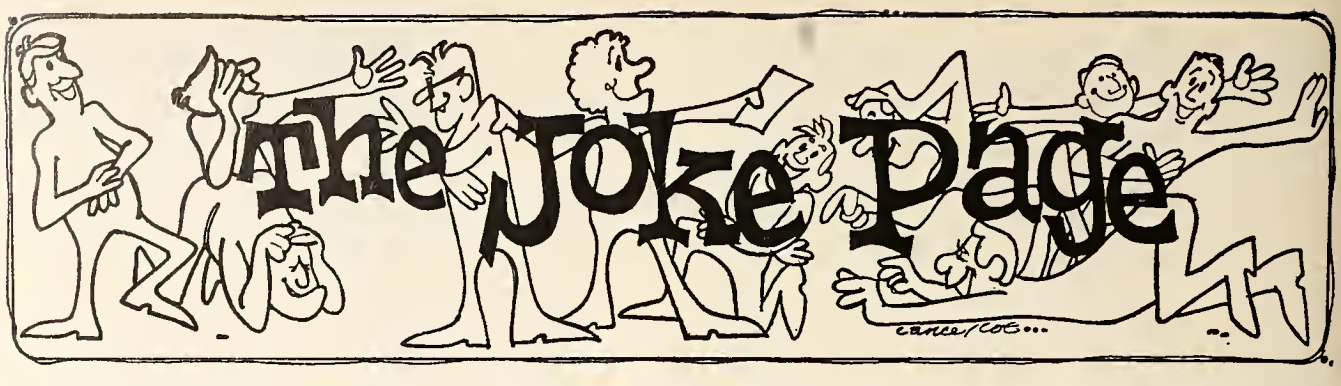

A group of new army recruits were standing in a hall, waiting to leave for basic training, while inside the sergeant was interviewing the last one.

"What did you do for a living before joining the army?" the sergeant asked.

"I was a comedy writer," the young man replied.

"No kidding?" the sergeant said, *"Let's see you make up a joke."*

The young man thought for a few seconds. Then he opened the door and stepped out into the hall. *"You guys can all go home,"* he said, *"I got the job."*

James King
Montague, Michigan

"I'm convinced Randy likes tractors, cultivators, hay balers, his pickup and me—in that order."

Boy: *"My big brother and I know everything in the world."*

Man: *"So name the capital of Australia?"*

Boy: *"That's one of the questions my brother knows."*

Audrey Unrein
Merino, Colorado

When the police arrested a young medicine peddler for selling eternal youth pills, they discovered that he was one of those repeat violators. He had been arrested on the same charge in 1776, 1829 and 1904.

Robbie Alford
Robeline, Louisiana

Her account of the disastrous fishing trip with her husband went something like this: *"I did everything wrong. I talked too loud. I made too much noise. I used the wrong bait. I reeled in too soon. I caught more fish than he did."*

Norma Keith
Centerville, Ohio

An old bachelor left all his property to three ladies to whom he had proposed marriage and who had refused.

"It was because of their refusals," he said in his will, *"that I owe all my worldy happiness."*

Robbie Alford
Robeline, Louisiana

Small boy to playmate as a pretty little girl passed: *"If I ever stop hating girls, she's the one I'll stop hating first!"*

Jason Moore
Liberty, Kentucky

John: *"Why are you a printer?"*
Joe: *"I guess I'm just the right type."*

Lisa Wenger
Gaithersburg, Maryland

After giving what he considered to be a stirring, fact-filled campaign speech, the candidate looked out at his audience and confidently asked, *"Now, are there any questions?"*

"Yes," came a farmer's voice from the rear, *"who else is running?"*

Bobbie Mae Cooley
Bowen, Illinois

Mother: *"I don't like all these flies."*
Son: *"Pick out the one you like and I'll swat the rest."*

Thomas LaMance
Modesto, California

Golfer: *"Well then, how would you have played that last shot?"*
Caddy: *"Under an assumed name."*

Mike Fuller
Bailey, Michigan

Bob: *"I hear your mother-in-law is pretty tough."*
Don: *"Tough? You give her a pair of crowbars and she could knit barbed wire."*

Don Lindal
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Charlie, the Greenhand

"Boy, did I ever feel ridiculous. The FFA costume dance isn't until next month."

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Recipe: Cut rabbits into serving size pieces; soak young rabbits 1 to 2 hrs. in salt water — 12 to 18 hrs. for older rabbits — 1 tsp. salt per qt. of water; after soaking, wrap meat in damp cloth and store overnight in cold place; butter a casserole dish and add a layer of rabbit pieces; sprinkle with ½ tsp. salt, fresh ground pepper to taste, ½ tsp. ground thyme and 3 large bay leaves; add 5 slices cut bacon; repeat layering until ingredients are used up; pour 1 cup water over casserole, cover and bake at 350° until tender — 1 to 2 hrs. depending on age; remove cover and sprinkle 1 cup seasoned bread crumbs over casserole; bake 30 min. and serve.

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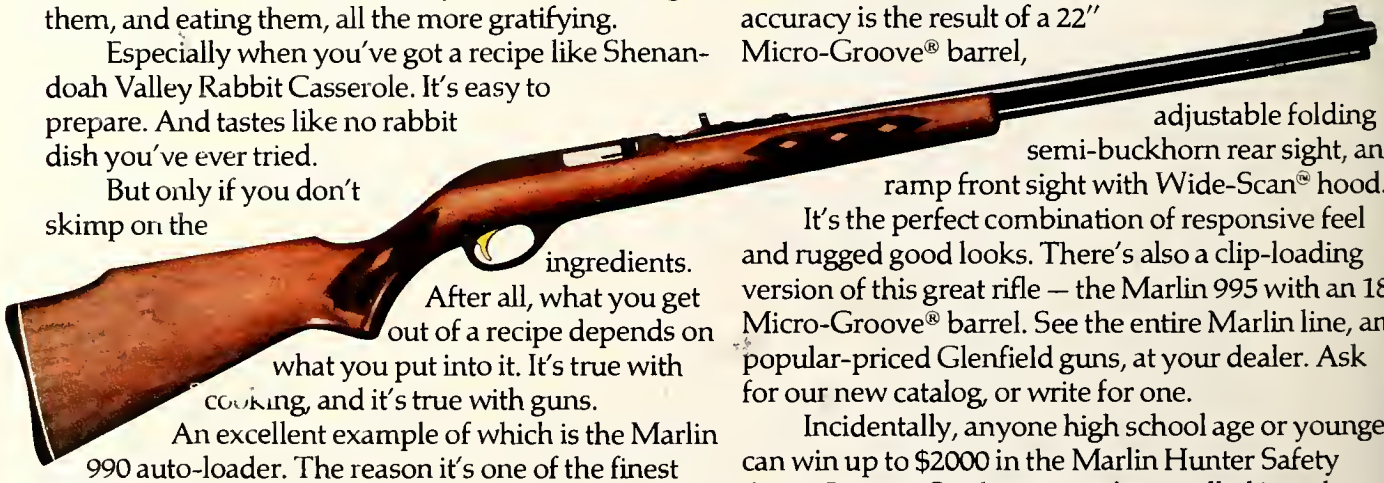
Other features include a grooved receiver top for scope mounting, and a handsomely checkered, genuine American black walnut stock. The 990's pinpoint accuracy is the result of a 22" Micro-Groove® barrel, adjustable folding semi-buckhorn rear sight, and ramp front sight with Wide-Scan™ hood.



It's the perfect combination of responsive feel and rugged good looks. There's also a clip-loading version of this great rifle — the Marlin 995 with an 18" Micro-Groove® barrel. See the entire Marlin line, and popular-priced Glenfield guns, at your dealer. Ask for our new catalog, or write for one.

Incidentally, anyone high school age or younger can win up to $2000 in the Marlin Hunter Safety Essay Contest. Students must be enrolled in or have completed a Hunter Safety Course. For entry form, write Marlin Firearms Co., North Haven, CT 06473.

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